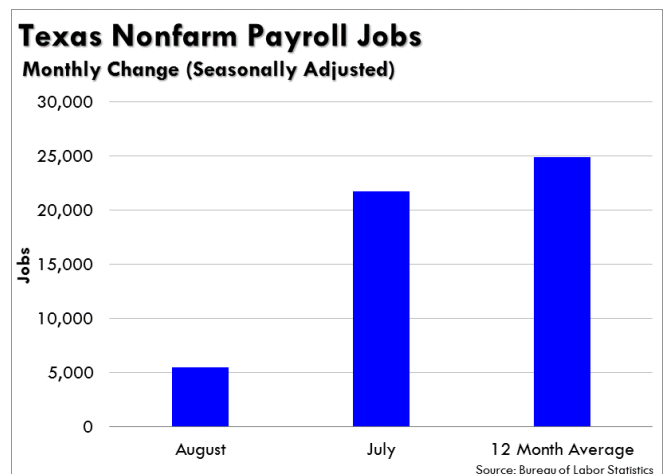
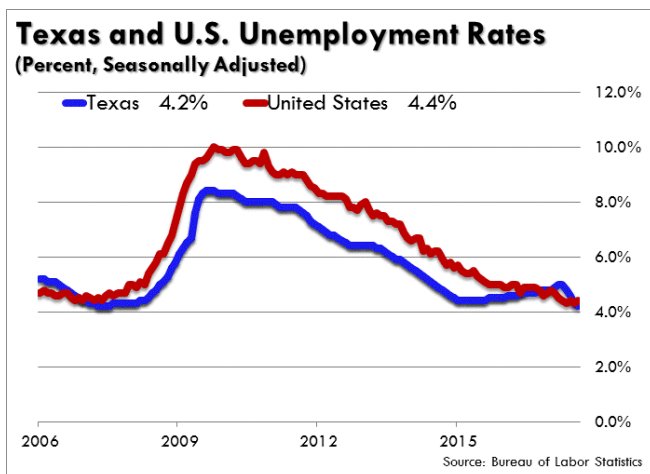


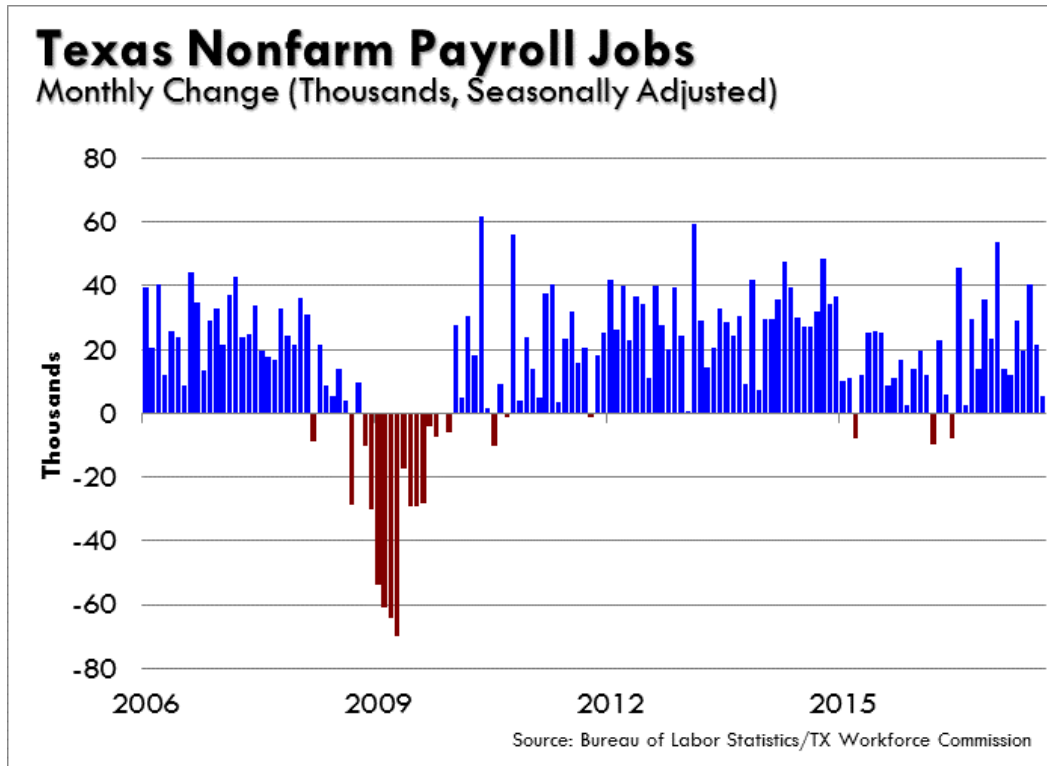


September 15, 2017

## Summary

- **Texas added 5,500 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 4.2 percent in August** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Texas added 298,600 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.5 percentage point from 4.7 percent.
- **In August, Texas's private sector added 4,400 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 270,800 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Texans fell by 17,600 in August**, and over the past year 153,700 Texans found jobs.
- Texas's **labor force participation rate decreased to 62.9 percent** from 63.1 percent in August. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 0.7 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **rose by 0.1 percentage point to 4.4 percent in August**. State employment and unemployment data for September is scheduled for release on October 20, 2017. The national employment situation report for September will be released on Friday, October 6, 2017.





## **Texas Payroll Employment**

Texas added 5,500 jobs, or 0.04 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during August. In the prior month, Texas added 21,700 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Texas increased by 298,600, or 2.48 percent. Texas nonfarm payroll employment has increased in each of the past 12 months.

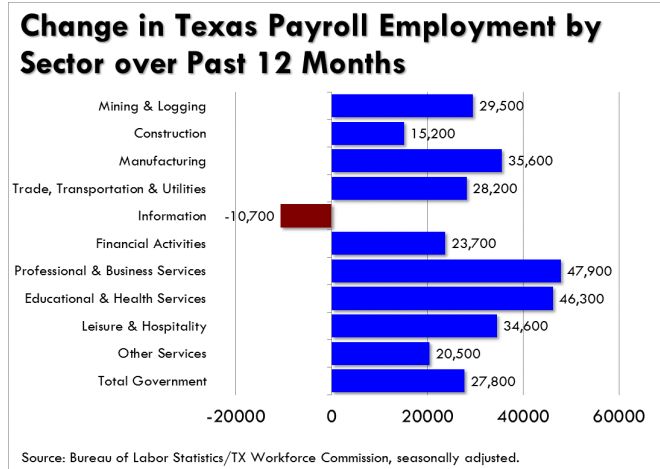
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 156,000 jobs in August, or 0.11 percent. Over the 12-month period ending August 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,097,000 jobs, or 1.45 percent. Texas ranks 35th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During August, Texas's private-sector added 4,400 jobs, or 0.04 percent. The private-sector in Texas added 22,800 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Texas increased by 270,800, or 2.68 percent. Texas private-sector payroll employment has increased in each of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 165,000 jobs in August, or 0.13 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,089,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.71 percent. Texas ranks 36th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during August were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+9,100) and Construction (+2,600). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Other Services (-6,500) and Educational & Health Services (-2,200).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Professional & Business Services (+47,900) and Educational & Health Services (+46,300). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Information (-10,700) and Construction (+15,200).



## **Texas Labor Force Statistics**

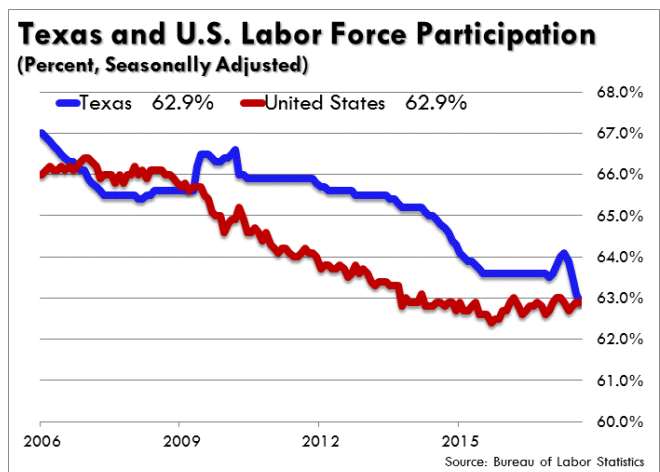
### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in Texas declined to 62.9 percent in August from 63.1 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 29 have a higher labor force participation rate than Texas. The labor force participation rate in Texas is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Texas was 66.6 percent in March 2010. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Texas occurred in September 1995 when the labor force participation rate hit 69.4 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 62.9 percent in August 2017. This also represents the series low for the labor force participation rate in Texas. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 62.9 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

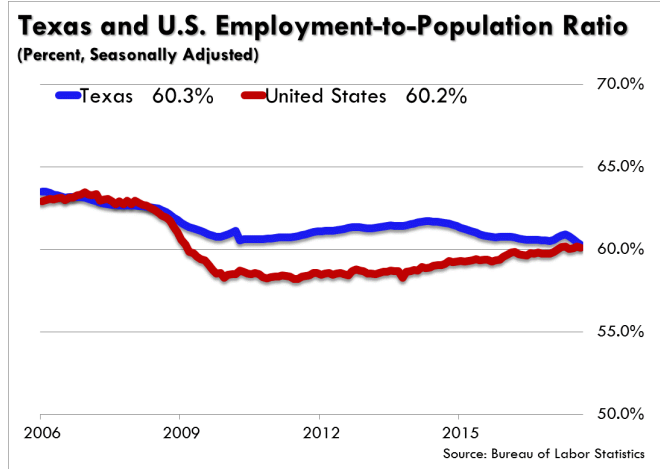
### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Texas civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, declined to 60.3 percent in August from 60.4 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 29 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Texas. The



employment-to-population ratio in Texas is 0.3 percentage point lower than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Texas was 62.7 percent in November 2007. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Texas occurred in November 1998 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 65.7 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 60.3 percent in August 2017. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in March 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 59.5 percent.



The national employment-to-population ratio declined by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in August. That rate was 0.4 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.